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Weekly

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Weekly Update: Thai Fighter; Algeria/UK; Singapore Trainer; Pucarás

THAI DECISION NEAR: Royal Thai Air Force officials began deliberations December 1 on a choice for a new attack fighter: decision is due by the end of the year. The prime contenders are the Fairchild-Republic A-10 *Thunderbolt II* and the Vought A-7 *Corsair II*. Sources tell the *Weekly* that the Thais favored the A-10 on technical/performance grounds, but strongly favored the A-7 on price. Look for a decision to go with the A-7, with 18 A-7s acquired from ex-US Navy stocks via a USN Foreign Military Sales (FMS) contract at \$1-million each, with a refurbishing contract to Vought at \$42-million, to bring them up to front-line capability, with modern avionics, weapons and weapons control systems. The A-10s were reportedly offered at \$18-million each, a difference which might not be sufficiently compensate for by the performance advantage. There was a suggestion that some of the upgrading on the A-7s would be handled by Singapore's aerospace industry on subcontract.


ALGERIAN-BRITISH DEAL: The long-anticipated Algerian-British defense agreement may well be signed by the end of the year, sources tell the *Weekly*. The British Aerospace *Hawk* trainer and light attack aircraft has been one of the systems under discussion, and the deal may also include the *Rapier* SAM and the *Swingfire* anti-tank missile. (British discussions on naval cooperation are also known to have taken place.) The deal comes at a time when a French defense deal with Algiers is also in the air (see this page, last week), and Algeria's ties with the US are also warming.

NO SINGAPOREAN DECISION: Despite published reports that Singapore has decided to favor the Italian SIAI-Marchetti S-211 as a trainer and light attack aircraft, sources say the decision is still open, and the other contender — Spain's CASA 101 *Aviojet* — is not out of the running.

NIGERIAN SWINGFIRES: Well-placed sources confirm that Nigeria recently concluded a deal for a "substantial number" of *Swingfire* anti-tank missiles, made by British Aerospace Dynamics Group. The sale, following other recent UK buys by Lagos, may represent a sign that difficulties in the Nigerian-UK defense relationship are now overcome.

PUCARÁS FOR VENEZUELA: After drawn-out talks (the *Weekly*, April 18-24, 1983), sources suggest that a sale of 24 Argentine FMA IA 58 *Pucará* attack aircraft to Venezuela is on. Venezuela had been insisting on Garrett TPE331 turbine engines for the aircraft, instead of the standard French Turboméca Astazou XVI G turboprops. (A prototype called the IA 66 with Garrett engines was built and flown by FMA). But French engine representatives carried the day in Caracas, according to an observer, and the Turboméca-equipped aircraft will be sold to Venezuela.

NEW TROUBLES IN ADEN? There are signs of new splits inside the South Yemeni leadership, as the rivalry between President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his rivals, former Defense Minister 'Ali 'Antar and present Defense Minister Salih Muslih Qasim, continues. A scheduled (constitutionally required) congress of the Yemeni Socialist Party, scheduled for October, has been shifted to May, apparently due to differences in the leadership, perhaps even 'Ali Nasir's desire to try to consolidate his strength for another six months in order to avoid being deposed. There are rumors 'Ali Nasir's recent visit to Moscow — his first in two years — was less than smooth: some say the Soviets have doubts about his reconciliation efforts with North Yemen and Oman. Others think Moscow is backing the *rapprochement*, hoping Aden will receive much-needed Gulf aid, easing Moscow's own burden.



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Latin America: Brazilian Weapons Sales

Brazil has sold over \$2-billion worth of defense equipment this year, according to Brazilian defense industrialist Jose Whittaker Ribeiro, head of IMBEL ordnance factories and founder of the armor maker Engesa. He told the press that arms exports earnings will surpass those from coffee in 1983. Whittaker Ribeiro noted that over 95 percent of Brazilian arms production is sold overseas, to some 40 countries. He added that one third of Brazil's weapons exports are to the Middle East.

In a related development, a Brazilian Foreign Ministry spokesman said that Brazil will not sell weapons to Iran while that country is at war with Brazilian arms customer Iraq. Iranian interest in such sales was expressed earlier this year (see the *Weekly*, September 5 - 11, 1983). Iran is believed to use some Brazilian military hardware, some of which is thought to have come from Libya's arsenals. The London-based *Latin American Weekly Report* has reported that Iran had proposed investing in the Brazilian defense industry earlier this year, but was turned down because of Brazil's concern over its oil-for-arms relationship with Baghdad.

COLOMBIAN AIRCRAFT BUYS: Colombia is negotiating with Lockheed of the US for two C-130 *Hercules* transport aircraft. The sale will be a direct commercial sale, approved by the US Government. Colombia's Air Force lost one C-130 this year when it crashed off the US coast during a logistics flight to the US. Another Colombian buy, according to reports, is of 10 Pilatus PC-6 *Turbo-Porters* for use as command and communications aircraft connecting the country's widely separated urban centers and trouble spots. The PC-6s are reported to already be in Colombia. A buy aimed at enhancing the military's supply and logistics capability is the reported purchase of two Fokker transports (type unidentified) at a reported cost of \$10-million. Fokker officials could not confirm details of the sale.

Middle East: Egypt Unveils First Gazelle

Egypt rolled out its first license-assembled Aérospatiale *Gazelle* helicopter at an Arab Organization for Industrialization plant near Cairo December 1. AOI will produce two *Gazelles* per month until 1985; Egypt is believed to hope to market its locally-assembled helicopters in some Middle Eastern and African states.

The French *Gazelles* are being assembled at the ironically-named Arab-British Helicopter Company, originally so named before the pullout in 1979 of Egypt's other Arab partners in the AOI, at which time AOI was scheduled to produce the Westland *Lynx*.

SUDAN'S SOUTH WORSENING? There are both direct and indirect indications of a rapid worsening of the situation in the southern Sudan. In addition to reports of buildups of Ethiopian troops along the border (see the *Weekly* two issues ago), there are reports of increasing fighting with separatist guerillas in the southern Sudan. No sooner had Sudanese leaders announced that they were in full control of Upper Nile province — itself an unusual statement unless serious clashes were taking place — than there came new reports of guerilla operations, some allegedly supplied by Libya from bases inside Ethiopia. In one interview, First Vice President and security chief Maj. Gen. 'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib blamed a Libyan plot, but did admit that "there are camps or pockets" of dissidents in Bahr al-Ghazal province, and that the rebels hope to bring about the establishment of a separate government in parts of the south. There were indications of increasing Saudi Arabian concern about the troubles, most notably in the extensive coverage given the events in the Saudi press in recent weeks.

CISKEIANS IN ISRAEL: Some 18 Ciskeians have arrived in Israel for a year-long pilot training course as part of Israel's military cooperation with Ciskei. The arrival of the Ciskeians came at a time when Israel's policies with regard to the homelands granted independence by South Africa (but not recognized elsewhere), of which Ciskei is one, are the subject of growing controversy. Ciskei's leader, Chief Lennox Sebe, has made a number of visits to Israel; after one of them he announced that Israel would provide weapons and training

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for Ciskei's Combined Forces and provide the bases for a Ciskeian Air Force. The pilot training is part of the latter agreement. Israel maintains trade relations with several of the homelands, as part of its close economic and military cooperation with South Africa. But Israel's attitude towards the independent homelands is controversial, and the present campaign to restore diplomatic relations with black Africa (so far Zaïre and Liberia have restored ties) has been hindered by Israel's South Africa ties.

Israeli policy has been to refuse to recognize the independent homelands, in keeping with the international refusal to do so, even while maintaining commercial and, in the case of Ciskei, military relations with them. When Sebe visited Israel, he is believed to have done so on a South African passport, and it is presumed that the Ciskeian pilot trainees are also using South African travel documents.

According to reports in the Israeli press, the Israeli Government is now considering means of discouraging the trade ties with the homelands as well, on the grounds that they damage Israel's growing ties with Africa. It is said that Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir opposes recognition or dealings with the homelands, and that the Government will officially boycott visiting officials from the homelands and ban Government involvement in commercial activities. Pressure, it is reported, will be brought on Knesset members and others to end commercial ties with the homelands, and legal steps might be taken against homelands representatives in Israel who portray themselves as diplomats.

How such a hands-off policy would accord with the agreement to train a Ciskeian air force remains unclear.

Asia: Japan-US Military Tech Transfer Progress

The Joint Military Technology Commission (JMTC), the primary mechanism through which a decision will be made to transfer Japanese military technology to the US, will include three Japanese and two US Government officials: one representative each from the Japan Defense Agency, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry and from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the US Ambassador to Tokyo and an agent from the US Mutual Defense Assistance office in Japan.

A Memorandum of Understanding signed by Japanese and US officials last month put the JMTC in place and established other transfer procedures. The Commission allows for a case-by-case review. US officials envision Japanese and US aerospace and military firms becoming acquainted with what each produces and then deciding what it is in their best interest to acquire. The US has yet to make any specific requests for information because there is still a gap in knowledge of what exactly is available in Japan. There has been some talk that the US is particularly interested in data pertaining to optics and lasers as well as applications for robotics.

US firms are now free to make deals with Japanese manufacturers just as they do with German, French and other allied countries. The way has been cleared for joint co-production projects between Japan and the US although no specifics have been ironed out. The two countries are likely to pick areas where they both need a similar type of weapon system and where they are interested in bringing production costs down. Torpedo, missile and future aircraft projects may be on the horizon. The US Government expects most of the transfers to be of a dual-use nature rather than military, however. Where this is the case, the JMTC will be by-passed.

INDIAN SECURITY BREACH: India has arrested three senior retired officers and a civilian in a security case which, if Indian press reports are true, involved the leaking of secret details of India's arms purchases from the USSR to US intelligence. Indian Defence Minister Ramaswamy Venkataraman told Parliament that Army Major General F.D. Larkins, his brother Air Force Air Vice Marshal K.H. Larkins, and Lt. Col. Jasbir Singh (all retired) had been arrested, along with a civilian, Jaspal Singh Gill. Venkataraman merely said the arrests were made under the Official Secrets Act and did not disclose the charges. But press reports claimed that the four had passed information on India's Soviet purchases over a five-year period to the US, and claimed that four US diplomats, two still in New Delhi, were implicated. Venkataraman noted that retired officers would no longer have access to the Armed Forces Defence Library, which contains classified information.

Africa: Plots Claimed in Seychelles, Equatorial Guinea

Yet another plot to overthrow the Seychelles Government was revealed when South Africa announced that it was holding five persons for questioning in connection with a plot against the Government of Presi-

dent France-Albert René. Seychellois authorities claimed the plot involved promises of Seychelles passports and prisoners to British businessmen concerned about the end of the Hong Kong lease in 1997. They also claimed that the plotters intended to kill René as well as attack the US satellite tracking station on the islands, in an attempt to provoke the US into a Grenada-style invasion to restore order. A British private investigator reportedly infiltrated the group for the Seychelles security forces.

South Africa denied reports that a South African Defence Force officer was among those held. Other reports said the plotters included three Britons (one a Zimbabwe citizen) and two Frenchmen.

In a much-publicized plot in 1981, a number of mercenaries were arrested with alleged ties to South Africa after an abortive coup. There were allegations of a similar plot in 1982. After the US invasion of Grenada, former Seychellois Prime Minister James Mancham, from his London exile, called for US intervention in the Indian Ocean islands. Most observers considered Mancham's appeal hopeless.

AND IN MALABO . . . The Spanish media have reported an alleged plot to overthrow the Government of Equatorial Guinea President Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo. A Madrid television report claimed that Secretary of State for External Affairs Apolinar Moiche had been arrested and that others, said to be involved in passport irregularities, had also been apprehended. But the Equatorial Guinean ambassador to Spain denied the reports of a coup as "all untrue and all lies".

SECRET MEETINGS? Amid continuing speculation of a possible concession by an increasingly beleaguered Angolan Government on the remaining issue in the Namibia negotiations (Cuban withdrawal), South African press reports have claimed that Foreign Minister Pik Botha has been in touch with senior Angolan and Mozambican officials during his recent visits to Europe, and that secret meetings may have prepared the way for meetings between Botha and the Angolan and Mozambican leaders.

MOVEMENT IN CHAD? The agreement by both President Hissène Habré and former President Goukouni Waddeye to attend talks in Addis Ababa marked the first move off dead center in the Chad situation since the crisis of last July. Although the talks — tentatively proposed for December 22 — might mean little in themselves, the fact that Habré had agreed to talk suggested that he had finally realized that France would not support a military victory over Goukouni, but would merely help him resist defeat by the latter's Libyan-backed forces. Goukouni's acceptance suggested that he and his new "National Council of Liberation" (CNL: see *Transition*, Page Five) might be more eager to negotiate some sort of coalition than to settle for continued *de facto* partition, in which Goukouni is left with little freedom of action and with far more Libyan control than his past record indicates he finds acceptable.

Latin America: Sandinista Peace Offensive

Most observers of Central America have either voiced skepticism of Nicaragua's recent "conciliatory" gestures or wondered just what measures would be enough to satisfy the Reagan Administration, but it is possible that neither perspective takes account of the real thrust or significance of the Sandinistas' proposed moves. The most important of the several planned measures, the amnesty for armed exile opponents and a new "hands-off" policy towards the Atlantic coast Indians, can be seen not as insincere tactical gestures, but as moves that directly attack the already slender political base of the anti-Sandinista forces.

By offering *contra* soldiers (whose prospects for military success has been repeatedly and publicly rated as very low by none other than the US Central Intelligence Agency) an opportunity to disarm and return to Nicaragua, the Sandinistas may be attempting to attack the morale of such groups as the FDN, and intending to materially weaken their strength through desertions. This analysis is supported by the specific exclusion of *contra* leaders from the amnesty, as well as those "accepting foreign assistance" in their fight. And by mending fences with the Miskitos and other disaffected Indian groups, Managua may hope to eliminate one of the most vigorous sources of opposition to Sandinista rule. The moves may not yield dramatic results, but they are probably aimed straight at the minds of the armed exiles rather than at the US media and public, as is assumed by most analysts.

Other measures, such as relaxed censorship of *La Prensa* and a dialogue with the Church and opposition parties, seem more designed for a foreign audience, but perhaps still not primarily the US. The Sandinistas seem to sense immutable hostility in the Reagan Administration, but they have come to rely on support from other Latin American countries, especially Colombia and Venezuela, and the Socialist International, especially its European affiliates. But lack of progress towards democracy has eroded this support, and Managua may be trying to stop this erosion.

NO VENEZUELAN SURPRISES: The margin of Jaime Lusinchi's *Acción Democrática* victory in Venezuela's elections may be unprecedented, but policy changes are expected to be moderate under the new Government. Economic and foreign debt questions will continue to dominate the agenda. AD's historical pro-Sandinista stance has soured somewhat, and the success of the above-mentioned Nicaraguan campaign to bolster its international support may be judged in part by the reactions of Venezuela's new ruling team. One way to look at yet another democratic and smooth power transition in Caracas: an additional boost to what many assert is a "creeping democratization" of South America in the last year — beginning with Bolivia and (partially) Brazil, extending to Argentina, and now pressuring the rulers of Uruguay and Chile.

FELIZ NAVIDAD: El Salvador's Secret Anticommunist Army (ESA), one of the organized "death squads" causing such a stir in US-Salvadoran relations, has released a communique in keeping with the Christian holiday season. The message calls on the FMLN to release several Army prisoners (including former Dep. Defense Minister Col. Adolfo Castillo) in return for guerilla captives held by ESA. "In view of the Christmas holidays, we wish the members of the Armed Forces and the three guerilla commanders to be free and to spend this holiday with their families." Noting that it made the proposal out of "humanitarian motives," the ESA concludes by saying that unless the Army prisoners are let go, it will execute the FMLN prisoners "one by one", as well as step up attacks on FMLN "collaborators."

Middle East: The US, Syria and the Asad Question

The escalating confrontation between the United States and Syria has spurred further rumors about the fate of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, variously said to have suffered a heart attack, or perhaps two; a stroke; to have been operated on for cancer; to have been seriously wounded in an assassination attempt inside the Presidential palace. There was talk that he would be moved to a hospital in France, or in Switzerland, or in Moscow, and rumors that the security services opposed this. The rumors and reports agree only that the official cover story (appendicitis) is not true: he is said to have had his appendix removed in 1973.

The publicized photos of Asad raise as many questions as they answer (some believe the photograph of the Ba'th Party Command meeting was taken in a hospital room; the presence of Defense Minister Mustafa Tlas suggests it was not taken on the day claimed, when he was out of town; and so on). The extreme "celebrations" of Asad's announced "recovery", when not followed by a public appearance or a meeting with a foreign diplomat, merely intensified the sense that the Syrian leadership was adrift and uncertain of its future at a very sensitive and delicate moment in the Lebanese crisis.

One published version, by the leftist Paris fortnightly *Afrique-Asie* and subsequently repeated by Baghdad Radio, alleged a power struggle is taking place between Rifat al-Asad and key party leaders on the one hand, and Chief of Staff Hikmat Shihabi and intelligence bosses 'Ali Duba and Muhammad al-Kholi on the other, after what it claimed was an assassination attempt in which Asad was badly wounded. Most sources favored the heart attack version, but a military vs. party or intra-security services power struggle seemed a real possibility if Asad is unable to return to work quickly.

Transition: Recent Appointments and Changes

Argentina: Senator Oscar Napoli (Rio Negro) was elected president of the ruling Radical Civic Union (UCR)'s Senate bloc.

Brazil: Army General Staff Chief General Tulio Chagas Nogueira was appointed to the Supreme Military Tribunal, and replaced by General Jose Magalhães da Silveira.

Cameroon: President Paul Biya has announced that Presidential elections will be held early in 1984.

Chad: Goukouni Waddeye and his supporters announced the formation of a new National Council of Liberation (CNL) at Bardai in the territory they control with Libyan support in northern Chad. The CNL was described as the "supreme organ of the Chadian Revolution" and apparently is intended to some extent to supersede the previous Transitional Government of National Unity (GUNT).

Colombia: In several Army appointments, Gen. Hernando Diaz Sanmiguel is the new commander of the 3rd Division; Maj. Gen. Luis Rodriguez Botiva is commander of the 5th Division; Maj. Gen. Oscar Botero Rostrepo is chief of the 1st Division; and Gen. Jaime Gomez Martinez is the head of the 2nd Department of the Army General Command.

Cyprus (TRNC): The newly-declared "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus" announced that a 70-member constituent assembly was being formed, consisting of the members of the Legislative Assembly, other cabinet members, and selected other representatives.

Ghana: Dr Ayirebi-Acquah has been named to replace Dr J.E. Taylor on the National Defence Committee.

Grenada: Anthony Rushford, the legal adviser to the country's interim advisory Council, has resigned and left the island, expressing unhappiness with Governor General Sir Paul Scoon's running of the Council. In temporary appointments, Barbados Acting Commissioner of Police Mervyn Holder has been named police commissioner, with St. Lucian George Rock becoming deputy police commissioner. Barbadian Lionel Maloney is the temporary commissioner of prisons, with St. Lucian Randolph York as deputy commissioner.

Guatemala: Deputy Defense Minister Col. Carlos Enrique Vides Reynoso was replaced by Col. Raul Alburez Arriola.

Honduras: Armed Forces Commander General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez was promoted to Division General; Col. Daniel Bali Castillo (Public Security Forces chief) was promoted to Brigadier General along with four other colonels.

Lebanon: Sheikh Halim Taqieddin, Chief of the Druze Courts system, was found murdered in Beirut.

Morocco: The new Government of National Unity, led by Mohammed Karim Lamrani as Foreign Minister, includes the left-wing Socialist Union of Popular Forces (USFP). Party leaders lost such key posts as Prime Minister and Foreign Minister; there are now eight ministers of state, most of them party leaders: Maati Bouabid, the outgoing Prime Minister and head of the Constitutional Union (UC); M'hamed Boucetta, the outgoing Foreign Minister and head of the Istiqlal Party; Ahmed Osman, the King's brother-in-law and head of the Rally of National Independents (RNI); 'Abderrahim Bouabid, in the Government for the first time since he has been leader of the USFP; Mahjoubi Aherdane, former Cooperation Minister and head of the Berber-based, rural Popular Movement (MP); Moulay Ahmed Alaoui, a close adviser and cousin of the King and publisher of *Le Matin du Sahara* and *Maroc Soir*; and M'hamed Bahnini, an independent. Replacing Boucetta as Foreign Minister is Abdelouahid Belkeziz, who was Minister of Information, Youth and Sports in the outgoing Cabinet. Abdelhaq Tazi remained Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. Belkeziz was replaced in the Information Ministry by United Nations Ambassador Dr Abdellatif Filali. Driss Basri remains Minister of the Interior.

Niger: Recently replaced Prime Minister Oumarou Mamane was named President of the National Council for Development, ending speculation that he might be in disgrace following the recent coup plot.

Nigeria: The chairmen of the Senate's committees for the new session were announced: Sen. Isa Dabai chairs the Defence Committee; Sen. Abubakar Tuggar chairs the Foreign Relations Committee, and Sen. Ahmadu Ali chairs the Committee on Internal Affairs and Police.

Philippines: Foreign Minister Carlos Romulo gave notice of his resignation from the Cabinet post due to ill health. His resignation will take effect on January 14, his birthday. A replacement has yet to be named by President Marcos. A new political party, the Lufian Manggagawa, has been formed from 25 labor groups; Jacento Tamayo is its President.

Peru: Army Commander General Carlos Briceno Zevallos has announced that his successor will be General Julian Julia Freyre; change of commands normally takes place around the new year.

Thailand: Air Marshal Thuanthong Yotawut, who was Assistant Air Force Chief of Staff for Intelligence, has been made Assistant Chief of Staff for Operation of the Supreme Command. Air Vice Marshal Phaithun Tobunmi, an Air Force adviser, will fill the Assistant Intelligence Staff Chief slot.

Turkey: The generals who have ruled the country have resigned to become civilian members of a new Presidential Council to advise President Kenan Evren, who resigned his military command earlier. The new Chief of General Staff, replacing Gen. Nurettin Ersin, is General Necdet Urug, formerly Ground Forces Commander. Replacing him in that post is his former deputy, General Haydar Saltik. Air Force Commander General Tahsin Sahinkaya was replaced with General Halil Sozer, and Navy Commander Admiral Nejat Tumer was replaced by Admiral Zahit Atakan. Gendarmerie Commander Gen. Sedat Celasun has been replaced with General Mehmet Buyruk. In addition, the majority Motherland Party (ANAP), as expected, elected its candidate, Necmettin Karaduman, as Speaker of the Turkish Grand National Assembly.

Uganda: Uganda Army Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. Oyite Ojok died in a helicopter accident, along with five other officers and three civilians.

Yemen (YAR): Dr Hasan Muhammad Muhsin has been named an adviser to President 'Ali Muhammad Salih.

The Rumor Mill

As negotiations continued over PLO withdrawal from Tripoli, there were claims that Syria was demanding that Tripoli Muslim fundamentalist leader Sheikh Sa'id Sha'ban withdraw from Tripoli along with Yasir Arafat; Sha'ban's Islamic Unity Movement has ties with the anti-Asad Syrian Muslim Brotherhood and joined with the pro-Arafat forces in the recent fighting . . . Reports in Thailand that a Cabinet shuffle is imminent have been dismissed by Thai Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda . . . The Hong Kong press alleges that former PRC Prime Minister and Communist Party Chairman Hua Guofeng tried to commit suicide recently . . . Nicaraguan exile radio claims that nine Bulgarian pilots (presumably fighter pilots) recently arrived in Nicaragua; Nicaraguan pilots have allegedly been training on Soviet fighter aircraft in Bulgaria . . . Brazilian officials deny a claim out of Argentina that they have granted the UK landing rights for Falklands-bound aircraft in return for help with debt rescheduling . . . It has been rumored that Salvadoran rightist leader Roberto D'Aubuisson favors a US military intervention in his country, and has considered launching a coup to provoke such intervention . . . Chilean security officials claim that the USSR spends millions of dollars a year for "terrorist" actions in Chile, and that Chilean insurgents are trained in the Libya, Cuba, and Eastern Europe by the USSR . . . Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir reportedly rebuked his Deputy Premier, David Levi, for Levi's public complaints that he was not receiving reports from Shamir and Defense Minister Moshe Arens on their conversations in Washington, though he was Acting Prime Minister . . . There's new speculation in Lebanon that Druze political and military leader Walid Jumblatt may be near an open falling out with his Syrian allies of the moment (whom he blames for his father's assassination) . . . Former Egyptian cabinet member and Presidential adviser (under Sadat) Mansur Hasan, once a fast-rising star of the National Democratic Party who was eclipsed when Husni Mubarak became President, has denied that he plans to join the opposition New Wafd Party . . . A French press report claims that Paris secretly recruited 32 mercenaries and sent them to Chad during last July's confrontation there, and that they were headed by Olivier Danet, an ultra-right wing figure in the so-called "black international", suspected of involvement in the 1980 Bologna train station bombing . . . ■

Leadership Profile: Jaime Lusinchi

President-elect, Republic of Venezuela

The man who recently captured the Venezuelan presidency by the largest margin in 25 years of democratic elections in that country is regarded as a skilled, plain-spoken politician who is expected to bring few radical changes to Venezuelan internal or foreign policy.

Born in 1924 in the town of Clarines in Anzoátegui state, Lusinchi was educated at local public schools before entering the Central University in Caracas to study medicine. Once at the University, Lusinchi soon became involved in the fight of the Democratic Action (AD) party against the military dictatorship then ruling Venezuela. He quickly achieved prominence within the younger ranks of the party. Lusinchi graduated with his medical degree in pediatrics in 1947. In 1948 a Democratic Action government was overthrown by the military, and Lusinchi joined his AD colleagues in going underground.

In 1952 Lusinchi was arrested, imprisoned, and then expelled from Venezuela, beginning six years of exile in Chile, Argentina, and the US. He continued his medical studies during this period, and worked at Bellevue Hospital in New York City. While in New York Lusinchi spent time with AD colleagues also in exile from Venezuela, and in 1958 when the military withdrew from power the group returned to help set up the country's first free elections since 1947. In the following election Lusinchi won his first political post, as a delegate in the House of Deputies. His legislative career lasted 25 years, capped by Lusinchi's choice as AD's congressional leader.

Lusinchi campaigned for AD's presidential nomination in 1977, but failed. He worked throughout the last six years to secure the nomination, and took advantage of the country's first economic slump since the oil boom to defeat his COPEI rival, Rafael Caldera. Lusinchi is seen as a moderate with excellent personal political skills whose ability to find consensus will be important in solving Venezuela's financial and economic difficulties. He is also considered a non-ideological politician who will rely on technocrats for policy advice.

Lusinchi is married to the former Gladys Castillo (also a pediatrician), by whom he has five children. ■

Defense & Foreign Affairs Weekly Arms Transfer Tables

Significant transfers of arms and related equipment to the Middle East, Africa, Latin America, Asia and the Pacific in the past quarter.

Middle East

| Acquiring Country/Group | System | Item | From | Quantity | Cost | Status |
|-------------------------|--------------|---|-------------|----------|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| Egypt | Missiles | Harpoon ship-launched version (McDonnell Douglas) | US | 18 | \$40m | Before Congress (September 1983) |
| Egypt | Vessels | Anti-submarine warfare ships | PRC | 2 | NA | Delivered (October 1983) |
| Egypt | Missiles | Chaparral missiles (Ford Aerospace) | US | 460 | \$180m | Before Congress (October 1983) |
| Greece | Ammunition | HEI-TMK11 and AP-1 M81A1 cartridges | US | 900,000 | \$30m | Before Congress (October 1983) |
| | | | | 300,000 | | |
| Greece | Aircraft | F-5 fighter aircraft (Northrop) | Jordan | 15 | NA | Reported negotiating (November 1983) |
| Iran | Armor | TAM medium tanks | Argentina | 100 | NA | Ordered (October 1983) |
| Iran | Aircraft | PC-7 Turbo-Trainer (Pilatus) | Switzerland | 8 | NA | Reported (November 1983) |
| Iraq | Aircraft | Super Etendard (AMD Breguet) | France | 5 | NA | Delivered (October 1983) |
| Kuwait | Aircraft | Hawk trainers (BAe) | UK | 12 | \$42.8m | Ordered (November 1983) |
| Kuwait | Raders | Upgrade of air defense network (Thomson-CSF) | France | NA | \$12.6m | Ordered (November 1983) |
| Lebanon | Armor | M48A5 tanks, ammunition, spares and training | US | 68 | \$64m | Letter of Offer (September 1983) |
| Lebanon | Various | Artillery, rifles, ammunition, mortars, machineguns | US | NA | NA | Supplying (September 1983) |
| Lebanon | Ammo | 155mm ammunition | Greece | NA | NA | Delivered (October 1983) |
| Lebanon | Munitions | 5.56mm, 7.62mm, .50 caliber, 40mm, 81mm, 105mm | US | NA | \$102m | Before Congress (October 1983) |
| | | 155mm ammo: mines; flares; hand grenades | | | | |
| Lebanon | Various | M113A2 APC with comm. equipment, M2 .50 caliber machineguns, spares | US | 253/NA | \$61m | Before Congress (October 1983) |
| Nigeria | Missiles | Swingfire anti-tank missiles (BAe Dynamics) | UK | NA | NA | Ordered (November 1983) |
| Oman | Construction | Army base for Safat al-Dawh (Costain Group) | UK | NA | \$112.6m | Letter of Intent (November 1983) |
| Oman | Aircraft | Jaguar International (SEPECAT) | UK | 1 | NA | Delivered (November 1983) |
| Saudi Arabia | Armor | M80-A3 tanks with thermal sights (General Dynamics) | US | 100 | \$176m | Letter of Offer (September 1983) |
| Saudi Arabia | Artillery | M-198 155mm towed howitzers | US | 42 | \$33m | Letter of Offer (September 1983) |
| Saudi Arabia | Support | Turnkey facilities for F-15 (Metcalfe & Eddy) | US | NA | \$15m | Ordered (September 1983) |
| Saudi Arabia | Support | Contractor Technical Services for F-15s (McDonnell Douglas) | US | NA | \$1.5b | Before Congress (October 1983) |
| Saudi Arabia | Ammunition | 155mm projectile rounds, propellant charges, fuzes, percussion primes | US | 985,820 | \$126m | Before Congress (October 1983) |
| Saudi Arabia | Armor | M578s, M88A1s, M108A2s, M109A2s, M577A2s, M992s, M113A2s (FMC/BMY) | US | 523 | \$271m | Before Congress (November 1983) |
| Turkey | Aircraft | F-16 Fighting Falcons (General Dynamics) | US | 180 (?) | \$4b (est.) | Selection (September 1983) |
| Turkey | Aircraft | AH-1S Cobra/TOW attack helicopters (Bell) | US | 6 | \$50m | Before Congress (October 1983) |
| Turkey | Aircraft | Components and subassemblies for UH-1H helicopters (Bell) | US | 15 | \$27m | Before Congress (October 1983) |
| Turkey | Support | For US origin aircraft | US | NA | \$75m | Before Congress (October 1983) |

Africa

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|---------|----------|--|--------|-----|-------|-------------------------------------|
| Burundi | NA | Unspecified Military Assistance | Egypt | NA | NA | Reported providing (September 1983) |
| Liberia | Aircraft | Ariges for Armed Forces, Air Liberia (IAI) | Israel | 1/3 | \$10m | Ordered (September 1983) |

Asia and the Pacific

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|-------------|----------|--|-----------|----|---------|---|
| Australia | Support | Spares for US-origin aircraft | US | NA | \$12m | Ordered (September 1983) |
| Australia | Avionics | Pave Tack Target Designator (Ford Aerospace & Communications) | US | 1 | NA | Delivered (October 1983) |
| Australia | Aircraft | Eurocopter helicopters (Aerospatiale) | France | 6 | NA | Reported ordering (October 1983) |
| India | Aircraft | Sea Harriers (British Aerospace) | UK | NA | NA | Pending negotiation (November 1983) |
| India | Radar | Super Search command and control (IMEL) | UK | 20 | \$13.5m | Ordered (December 1983) |
| Indonesia | Vessel | Kri Sinibu Attack-class patrol boat | Australia | 1 | NA | Delivered (October 1983) |
| Korea (ROK) | Support | Cooperative logistics for US-origin aircraft | US | NA | \$71m | Letter of Offer (September 1983) |
| Korea (ROK) | Support | Installation and spares for chaff/flare countermeasures (Tracor) | US | NA | \$3.7m | Ordered (September 1983) |
| Korea (ROK) | Support | AN/AVQ-28 Pave Tack pods, training, support (Ford Aerospace) | US | 8 | \$50m | Letter of Offer (December 1983) |
| Malaysia | Radar | Air defense radar (Hughes Aircraft) | US | NA | \$180m | Planning to order (October 1983) |
| Pakistan | Vessel | Guney-class destroyer | US | 1 | NA | Delivered (October 1983) |
| PNG | Vessels | Patrol boats for surveillance | Australia | NA | NA | Interest in new construct. (Sept. 1983) |
| Singapore | Aircraft | F-2C Hawkeyes (Grumman) | US | 4 | \$410m | Before Congress (October 1983) |
| Solomon Is. | Vessels | Patrol boats for surveillance | Australia | NA | NA | Interest in new construct. (Sept. 1983) |
| Thailand | Vessel | HMS Songkhle frigates | Italy | 1 | NA | Delivered (September 1983) |
| Thailand | Aircraft | Normed Searchmaster (GAF) | Australia | 4 | \$7.5m | Agreed (October 1983) |

Latin America

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|-----------|-----------------|--|-------------|----|-------|------------------------------------|
| Colombia | Aircraft | PC-6 Turbo-Porters (Pilatus) | Switzerland | 10 | NA | Reported ordering (December 1983) |
| Colombia | Aircraft | F-27 transports (Fokker) | Netherlands | 2 | NA | Reported ordering (December 1983) |
| Colombia | Aircraft | C-130 Hercules transports (Lockheed) | US | 2 | NA | Pending order (December 1983) |
| Colombia | Aircraft | PC-6 Turbo-Porters (Pilatus) | Switzerland | 10 | NA | Reported delivered (December 1983) |
| Colombia | Aircraft | F-27 transports (Fokker) | Netherlands | 2 | NA | Reported ordering (December 1983) |
| Nicaragua | Vessel | Patrol boats | France | 2 | NA | Commissioned (September 1983) |
| Peru | Aircraft | Mi-24 Hind helicopter gunships | USSR | 16 | NA | Reported (September 1983) |
| Peru | Infantry equip. | Various night vision, other infant. equip. | FRG | NA | \$32m | Reported (September 1983) |
| Venezuela | Aircraft | IA-58 Pucara attack aircraft (FMA) | Argentina | 24 | NA | Negotiating (December 1983) |